

Message Text

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41

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 ACDA-07 SAJ-01 TRSE-00 /069 W

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R 271510Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5774

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, GR

SUBJECT: GOG ACKNOWLEDGES PLOTS AGAINST CARAMANLIS

1. THE ATHENS PRESS OF JULY 24 AND 25 REPORTED ON STATEMENTS BY UNDERSECRETARY FOR PRESS AND INFORMATION PANAYIOTIS LAMBRIAS ACKNOWLEDGING THAT SIX PLOTS AGAINST PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS DURING THE FIRST MONTHS AFTER HIS RETURN TO GREECE IN JULY 1974 HAD BEEN UNCOVERED.

2. LAMBRIAS' STATEMENT STEMS FROM A SERIALIZED INTERVIEW BY FORMER PRESIDENT PHAEDON GIZIKIS APPEARING IN APOGEVMATINI IN WHICH GIZIKIS REVEALED THAT HE KNEW OF FOUR PLOTS AND HAD, IN FACT, BEEN ASKED TO BE A PASSIVE PARTY TO TWO OF THEM. THIS REPORTEDLY LED TO AN ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE UNION OF DEMOCRATIC LAWYERS, A GROUP OF LAWYERS WHO WERE ACTIVE IN DEFENDING INDIVIDUALS ACCUSED OF POLITICAL CRIMES DURING THE PERIOD OF THE JUNTA, THAT IT WOULD BEGIN LEGAL STEPS ON JULY 26 TO FORCE IDENTIFICATION OF THE PLOTTERS UNLESS THE GOVERNMENT ITSELF WOULD TAKE ACTION AGAINST THEM.

3. LAMBRIAS APPARENTLY BRIEFED A NUMBER OF JOURNALISTS LAST WEEK CONCERNING THE PLOTS AND THE ELEBORATE SECURITY MEASURES TAKEN TO PROTECT CARAMANLIS AT THE TIME. HE DECLINED TO IDENTIFY THE PLOTTERS, HOWEVER, ON THE GROUNDS

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THAT THEY AND THEIR LEADERS ARE ALREADY IN JAIL, SOME UNDER

LIFE SENTENCES. ALTHOUGH BOTH CARAMANLIS AND MINISTER OF DEFENSE EVANGELOS AVEROFF HAVE IN THE PAST MADE OBLIQUE REFERENCES IN PARLIAMENT TO PHYSICAL DANGERS WHICH CARAMANLIS HAS FACED, LAMBRIAS' BRIEFINGS WERE MORE DETAILED AND THE FIRST MADE BY A GOG SPOKESMAN ESPECIALLY FOR PUBLICATION AS FAR AS WE ARE AWARE.

4. GIZIKIS WAS VAGUE CONCERNING THE NATURE OF THE PLOTS AND LAMBRIAS WAS NOT QUOTED DIRECTLY ON THIS POINT. ONLY AKROPOLIS MENTIONS ASSASSINATION SPECIFICALLY IN ADDITION TO PLANS FOR CARAMANLIS' DETENTION.

5. THE JULY 27 PRESS HAS MOVED ON TO OTHER ATTRACTIONS.
KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

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